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TRANSACTIONS OF THE SOCIETY.

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1901.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Mendelssohn Hall, No. 119 West Fortieth Street, on Tuesday, January 22, 1901, at 8.30 o'clock. P.M.

President Low in the chair.

The following persons, recommended by the Council, were elected Fellows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| R. Napier Anderson. | J. P. Morgan, Jr. |
| Alexander Brown, Jr. | Austin W. Lord. |
| Henry De Coppet. | William Lawson. |
| Rev. James S. Dennis. | Thomas H. Hubbard. |
| Henry Belknap. | V. Everit Macy. |
| Miles M. Dawson. | Dr. George N. Miller. |
| Anson R. Flower. | Louis Sather Bruguière. |
| Frederick S. Flower. | Henry Hentz. |
| David Willcox. | F. Warren Montgomery. |
| James Curran. | Wainwright Hardie. |
| James J. Faye. | Herman Vogel. |
| Baron H. Arnous de Rivière. | Harry H. Meyer. |
| Charles H. Haswell. | Henry E. Montgomery. |
| Augustus L. Hyde. | John S. Durand. |
| George B. Hopkins. | Charles H. Marshall. |
| Alexander P. Ketchum. | George H. Macy. |
| G. Weaver Loper. | John W. T. Nichols. |
| Thomas E. Kirby. | Carl Fischer-Hansen. |
| R. Johnson Held, M.D. | Dunham Jones Crain. |
| H. B. Laidlaw. | W. F. Owens. |

The Annual Report of the Council was then submitted and read:

NEW YORK, January 5, 1901.

To the American Geographical Society:

The Council respectfully submit the following report for the year 1900.

The number of Fellows on the 1st of January was 1,164. The additions during the year number 50. The losses by death, resignation, etc., were 97, and the total Fellowship on the 31st of December was 1,120, of which number 297 were Life Fellows.

The additions to the Library number 4,232, viz.: Periodicals and Pamphlets, 2,655; Books, 1,253; Maps and Charts, 301; Atlases, 23.

Six meetings of the Society were held in the year. That of January was devoted

to a commemoration of the late President Charles P. Daly. At the other meetings papers were read by:

Prof. T. C. Mendenhall on the Alaska Boundary ;

President Schurman, of Cornell University, on the Philippine Islands and their People ;

Herbert L. Bridgman on the Cruise of the Diana and Peary's Work in the Arctic ;

Edward Whymper on Mountain Climbing, Twenty thousand Feet above the Sea ;

W. A. P. Martin, D.D., On the Siege in Peking: its Causes and Consequences.

There have been published in the BULLETIN, which has appeared with regularity, twenty-three original papers, besides the usual Record and Scientific notes.

For the condition of the finances, reference is respectfully made to the report of the Treasurer, herewith submitted.

The Society's building in Eighty-first street is in process of construction, and the architects promise its completion before midsummer. There have been expended on the lots and building \$158,519.73—of which amount generous friends of the Society have furnished \$32,165, and the remainder has been paid out of the resources of the Society. Since the last report the following additions to the Building Fund have been made* :

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| W. J. Bormay..... | \$15 00 |
| James Douglas..... | 250 00 |
| John Greenough..... | 1,000 00 |
| J. J. Higginson.... | 100 00 |
| J. J. Hill..... | 100 00 |
| Gustav E. Kissel..... | 500 00 |
| Chandler Robbins..... | 500 00 |
| T. G. Sellew..... | 250 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,715 00 |

The establishment of the Society in this ample and commodious home will relieve it of the embarrassments under which it has labored for so long a time, and increase in every way its power for usefulness.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY PARISH,
Chairman.

LEVI HOLBROOK,
Secretary.

The Report of the Treasurer was then presented and read:

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

General Account.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| The Treasurer respectfully reports that on January 1st there were in the Union Trust Co..... | \$5,154 27 |
| During the year there have been received from Fellowship Dues, Sales of Publications, and interest on invested Funds | 16,409 87 |
| From Sales of Investments..... | 73,750 00 |
| Donations to Building Fund..... | 2,715 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$98,029 14 |

* A contribution of two hundred dollars has since been received from Miss Luella Agnes Owen.

| | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| There have been expended for Salaries, Library, Publications, Meetings, House a/c, Insurance, Postages, etc., etc..... | \$11,243 15 | |
| And there have been paid on account of construction of the Society's new fire-proof building on West 81st street..... | 67,138 92 | 78,382 07 |
| On December 31st there are in the Union Trust Co. to the credit of General Account..... | | \$19,647 07 |
| NEW YORK, December 31, 1900. | | |

W. R. T. JONES,
Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed to recommend to the Society suitable persons to be elected in January, 1901, to fill vacancies then occurring in its offices, respectfully report :

That they would recommend the election of the following named persons to the offices below designated :

President—SETH LOW, term to expire in January, 1902.
 Vice-President—D. O. MILLS, term to expire in January, 1904.
 Treasurer—WALTER R. T. JONES, term to expire in January, 1902.
 Recording Secretary—ANTON A. RAVEN, term to expire in January, 1904.
 Councillors—LEVI HOLBROOK,
 MORRIS K. JESUP,
 GUSTAV E. KISSEL,
 HENRY PARISH,
 JOHN A. HADDEN, } Terms to expire in January, 1904.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed.) FRANCIS M. BACON,
 W. H. H. MOORE,
 S. NICHOLSON KANE,

December 20, 1900.

Committee.

On motion, Mr. Albert Operti was appointed to cast the vote of the Society for the candidates, and they were declared duly elected.

The President returned thanks to the Society for the honor conferred upon him by their choice, now reaffirmed for the ensuing year, and then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. A. F. Schaffler, who delivered a lecture on Constantinople.

The lecture was illustrated with stereopticon views.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

A regular meeting of the Society was held at Mendelssohn Hall, No. 119 West Fortieth Street, on Wednesday, February 20th, 1901, at 8.30 o'clock, p. m.

President Low in the chair.

The following persons, recommended by the Council, were elected Fellows:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| F. A. Parsons. | William Fitz Hugh Whitehouse, Jr. |
| Walter Coles Cabell. | John N. Beckley. |
| J. Harsen Purdy. | William C. Sturges. |
| Stephen H. P. Pell. | Robert F. Ballantine. |
| Charles Kohlman. | Geo. Barclay Rives. |
| Robert Maxwell. | Chas. F. Smillie. |
| Josiah C. Reiff. | Safford Goodwin Perry. |
| Thomas B. Rea. | James Pech, LL.D. |
| Samuel Riker. | Rev. Arthur Lawrence. |
| Edgar E. Saltus. | Gamaliel Bradford. |
| Isaac N. Seligman. | William Farnsworth. |
| William G. Slade. | Edward C. Johnson. |
| William H. Leupp. | George G. Kennedy, M.D. |
| Charles D. Stickney. | Albert Matthews. |
| George L. Stebbins. | William W. Swan. |
| Charles Robinson Smith. | Alden Sampson. |
| W. S. K. Wetmore. | E. M. Fulton, Jr. |
| James M. Wentz. | William Kent. |

The President then rose and addressed Dr. Thomas C. Mendenhall, present by invitation, as follows:

It is my privilege to present to you this evening the Cullum Geographical Medal, awarded by unanimous vote of the Council for your long-continued and fruitful labours in the cause of science, and specifically for your valuable services to the science of geography in your position as Superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey for the period 1889-1894.

Fitly to direct a branch of governmental work, so important and so far-reaching in its influence, is to deserve well of one's country; and I feel that I give expression to the judgment of all in saying that your administration of the Survey has long called for a public recognition by reason of its unsurpassed efficiency and its high standard of excellence.

Dr. Mendenhall replied:

Nothing has ever come to me more unexpectedly than the announcement that the American Geographical Society had conferred upon me the Cullum Geographical Medal, and nothing that has come has been more pleasing. I can but inadequately express to the Society my gratitude at this more than generous appreciation of my work, but I cannot do less than thank you most sincerely for the high honor of which I am now the recipient. Since receiving the announcement of the Society's action I have spent no little time in trying to discover why it should have been taken. I am not inclined to attribute it to any personal merit of my own, but rather to a disposition to recognize the kind of geographical work in which I have long been interested. I mean by this what I may call geography of precision, not as opposed to, but as parallel with, geography of discovery. This world is so small and geographers have

been so many and so active that geography of discovery is nearing its end. Not many areas now exist that have not been explored by intelligent and courageous travellers. In the geography of position and form, however, very much remains to be done. The dictionary, to which we often last go for the meaning of a word, says that geography is that science which treats of the world and its inhabitants. It is thus the most comprehensive and inclusive of all sciences, and as long as there is anything to learn about the earth or its people the Society will not be without occupation. Certainly such problems as that of the Figure of the Earth, which Humboldt declared to be the most fruitful that has ever occupied the attention of man in the importance of the scientific methods and results that have come from its study, are fit to demand the recognition and support of the Society. And this is also true of problems relating to its motions, its mass, terrestrial gravity, terrestrial magnetism, and all that is included in the term terrestrial physics. It is encouraging to feel that this great Society is ready and willing to recognize in the bestowal of its honors those who have given special attention to this phase of geographical work, and as evidence of this willingness I accept this medal, again assuring you of the great pleasure I have in so doing.

President Low then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. George F. Becker, who addressed the Society on the Conditions requisite to our Success in the Philippine Islands.

On motion, the Society adjourned.